

**What is claimed is:**

1 A distributed debugger system, which debugs a distributed system which is configured by a program run on plural computers, comprising:

5 a program manager for executing a management from a predetermined computer to other computers via a network interconnecting said plural computers, said management being related to the setting status and execution status of a debug object program executed on each of said plural computers.

10 2 The distributed debugger system defined in Claim 1, wherein said program manager comprises:

at least one of controllers for receiving instructions from a user;

15 at least one of executors connected to said debug object program; each of said controllers including a setting-status manager for managing the setting of each of debuggers constructing said distributed debugger system and communication means for communicating with other controllers or said executors;

20 each of said executors including a setting-status manager for managing the setting of each of debuggers constructing said distributed debugger system and communication means for communicating with other

5                controllers or executors;  
5                said setting-status manager changing its setting  
5                content when a change in setting is instructed and  
5                then notifying a setting-status manager in other  
5                controller or said executor of the changed content  
5                using said communication means, while said setting-  
5                status manager changes its setting content in  
5                response to notification;  
10              whereby said distributed system to be debugged is  
10              debugged using the same setting on all computers in  
10              which said distributed debugger operates.  
15              3 The distributed debugger system defined in Claim 2,  
15              wherein said program manger comprises:  
15              at least one of controllers for receiving instructions  
15              from a user;  
15              at least one of executors connected to said debug  
15              object program;  
15              each of said controllers including an execution-status  
15              manager for managing an execution status of each of  
20              debuggers constructing said distributed debugger  
20              system, and communication means for communicating  
20              with other controllers or executors;  
25              each of said executors including said execution-status  
25              manager for managing the execution status of said  
25              debugger, a process manager for managing a debug

object program, and communication means for  
communicating with other controllers or executors;  
wherein said execution-status manager changes its  
setting content when being instructed to change the  
5 execution status; said communication means notifies  
said execution-status manager in other controller or  
execution-status manager of the changed content; and  
said execution-status manager changes its status in  
response to the notification and instructs said  
process manager to instruct a change of operation;  
whereby the same execution status is maintained on  
all computers on which said distributed debugger  
system operates.

4 The distributed debugger defined in Claim 2, wherein  
15 said program manager comprises:

at least one of controllers for receiving instructions  
from a user;  
at least one of executors connected to said debug  
object program;  
20 each of said controllers including a user interface for  
interpreting a request for displaying the status of a  
debug object program from a user and displaying the  
results; place decision means for specifying one or  
more existence places in the status specified based  
on the nature of the status when the status of a  
25

debug object program is specified and based on the execution status of a debug object program acquired from said process manager, and communication means for communicating with other controller or executor;

5 each of executors including a process manager for managing a debug object program and communication means for communicating with other controller or executor;

said user interface inquiring said place decision means

10 in response to a request for displaying the status of a debug object program from a user and then acquiring one or more existence places of the status and transmitting a status capture request to said process managers at all existence places via said communication means;

15 said process manager checking the execution status of a debug object program under management in response to a status capture request and transmitting results to said user interface at the request source;

20 said user interface receiving one or more results and then outputting said results in a batch mode to said user, whereby said user acquires the status of a distributed system to be objected, without recognizing its existence place.

25 5 The distributed debugger system defined in Claim 2,

wherein said program manager and said debug object manager  
are realized on the same distributed system construction  
foundation and wherein program manager uses a  
communication function provided by said distributed system  
construction foundation.

6 The distributed debugger system defined in Claim 2,  
wherein said program manager comprises:

    said setting-status manager for holding as a setting  
        status a debug object program activation method;  
10     a remote debugger activator for activating said  
        executor on a remote computer; and  
        a user interface for interpreting a debug object  
        program from a user and a specification of an  
        execution start place thereof;

15     said user interface receiving a specification of said  
        debug object program from said user and then  
        notifying said setting-status manager of the  
        specification;

20     said user interface receiving the specification of said  
        execution start place of said debug object program  
        from said user and instructing said executor  
        specified by said remote debugger activator to  
        activate said executor;

25     said remote debugger activator activating said executor  
        on a specified computer;

5           said user interface instructs said activated executor  
          to start the execution of said debug object program;  
          said process manager in said executor instructed  
          acquiring information about a debug object program  
          held in said setting-status manager to start  
          execution of said debug object program;  
          whereby execution of a debug object program is started  
          on a computer different from the computer operated by  
          said user.

10          7 The distributed debugger system defined in Claim 1,  
          wherein said program manger comprises:  
          at least one of controllers for receiving instructions  
          from a user;  
          at least one of executors connected to said debug  
15          object program;  
          each of said controllers including an execution-status  
          manager for managing an execution status of each of  
          debuggers constructing said distributed debugger  
          system, and communication means for communicating  
          with other controllers or executors;

20          each of said executors including said execution-status  
          manager for managing the execution status of said  
          debugger, a process manager for managing a debug  
          object program, and communication means for  
          communicating with other controllers or executors;

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wherein said execution-status manager changes its  
setting content when being instructed to change the  
execution status; said communication means notifies  
said execution-status manager in other controller or  
5 execution-status manager of the changed content; and  
said execution-status manager changes its status in  
response to the notification and instructs said  
process manager to instruct a change of operation;  
whereby the same execution status is maintained on  
all computers on which said distributed debugger  
10 system operates.

8 The distributed debugger defined in Claim 7, wherein  
said program manager comprises:

at least one of controllers for receiving instructions  
15 from a user;

at least one of executors connected to said debug  
object program;

each of said controllers including a user interface for  
interpreting a request for displaying the status of a  
20 debug object program from a user and displaying the  
results; place decision means for specifying one or  
more existence places in the status specified based  
on the nature of the status when the status of a  
debug object program is specified and based on the  
25 execution status of a debug object program acquired

from said process manager, and communication means  
for communicating with other controller or executor;  
each of executors including a process manager for  
managing a debug object program and communication  
means for communicating with other controller or  
executor;

5  
said user interface inquiring said place decision means  
in response to a request for displaying the status of  
a debug object program from a user and then acquiring  
one or more existence places of the status and  
transmitting a status capture request to said process  
managers at all existence places via said  
communication means;

10  
said process manager checking the execution status of a  
debug object program under management in response to  
a status capture request and transmitting results to  
said user interface at the request source;

15  
said user interface receiving one or more results and  
then outputting said results in a batch mode to said  
user, whereby said user acquires the status of a  
distributed system to be objected, without  
recognizing its existence place.

20  
**9** The distributed debugger system defined in Claim 8,  
wherein said program manager and said debug object manager  
25 are realized on the same distributed system construction

foundation and wherein program manager uses a communication function provided by said distributed system construction foundation.

10 The distributed debugger system defined in Claim 7,  
5 wherein said program manager interprets a request for changing the status of a debug object program, from a user, and instructs said execution-status manager to change the status.

11 The distributed debugger system defined in Claim 10,  
10 wherein said program manager and said debug object manager are realized on the same distributed system construction foundation and wherein program manager uses a communication function provided by said distributed system construction foundation.

15 12 The distributed debugger system defined in Claim 7,  
wherein said process manager in said executor within said program manager changes its operation according to the operation of a debug object program and changes the status of said execution-status manager within the same executor  
20 based on the changed content.

25 13 The distributed debugger system defined in Claim 12,  
wherein said program manager and said debug object manager are realized on the same distributed system construction foundation and wherein program manager uses a communication function provided by said distributed system

construction foundation.

14 The distributed debugger system defined in Claim 7,  
wherein said program manager and said debug object manager  
are realized on the same distributed system construction  
foundation and wherein program manager uses a  
communication function provided by said distributed system  
construction foundation.

15 The distributed debugger defined in Claim 1, wherein  
said program manager comprises:

10 at least one of controllers for receiving instructions  
from a user;  
at least one of executors connected to said debug  
object program;  
each of said controllers including a user interface for  
15 interpreting a request for displaying the status of a  
debug object program from a user and displaying the  
results; place decision means for specifying one or  
more existence places in the status specified based  
on the nature of the status when the status of a  
debug object program is specified and based on the  
20 execution status of a debug object program acquired  
from said process manager, and communication means  
for communicating with other controller or executor;  
each of executors including a process manager for  
25 managing a debug object program and communication

- means for communicating with other controller or  
executor;
- said user interface inquiring said place decision means  
in response to a request for displaying the status of  
5 a debug object program from a user and then acquiring  
one or more existence places of the status and  
transmitting a status capture request to said process  
managers at all existence places via said  
communication means;
- 10 said process manager checking the execution status of a  
debug object program under management in response to  
a status capture request and transmitting results to  
said user interface at the request source;
- 15 said user interface receiving one or more results and  
then outputting said results in a batch mode to said  
user, whereby said user acquires the status of a  
distributed system to be objected, without  
recognizing its existence place.
- 16 The distributed debugger system defined in Claim 1,  
20 wherein said program manager and said debug object manager  
are realized on the same distributed system construction  
foundation and wherein program manager uses a  
communication function provided by said distributed system  
construction foundation.
- 25 17 A debugging method, suitable in use for a distributed

debugger system that debugs a distributed system  
configured of a program which runs on plural computers,  
said method comprising the step of:

implementing a program management from a predetermined  
5 computer to other computers via a network  
interconnecting said computers, said program  
management being related to the setting status and  
execution status of a debug object program to be  
executed on each of said computers.

- 10 **18** The debugging method defined in Claim 17, wherein said  
program management step comprises the sub-steps of:  
transmitting an instruction of a setting change from a  
user or other computers to each of said debuggers  
constructing said distributed debugger system;  
15 changing the setting in response to said instruction;  
deciding whether or not said instruction has come from  
other computers; and  
notifying said debuggers on said other computers of  
said instruction via communications when said  
instruction has not come via communications;  
20 whereby a distributed debugger system to be debugged is  
debugged using the same settings on all computers on  
which said distributed debugger system operates.  
**19** The debugging method defined in Claim 18, wherein each  
25 of debuggers constructing said distributed debugger system

includes the steps of:

receiving an instruction of a change in execution status;

deciding whether or not said instructed status corresponds to a change to the same status as a current status;

5 changing the status when the instructed status is not the same as the current status;

deciding whether or not said execution status change is instructed according to a change of the management status of a debug object program;

10 instructing said debugger on other computer to change the execution status via communications when the status change is instructed due to a change of the management status of said debug object program;

15 deciding whether or not a debugger is said debugger which is managing said debug object program when the status change is not instructed due to a change of the management status of said debug object program;

20 and

changing the management status of said debug object program in accordance with the status changed when a debugger is said debugger which is managing said debug object program;

25 whereby the same execution status is maintained on all

computers on which said distributed debugger system operates.

20 The debugging method defined in Claim 18, wherein each  
of said debuggers constructing said distributed debugger  
5 system implements the steps of:

receiving an instruction for displaying a status from a  
user;

interpreting said instruction;

specifying one or more specified status existence  
10 places;

transmitting a status capture request to debuggers at  
all existence places;

acquiring the status of a debug object program by means  
of said debugger which has received said status  
capture request;

acknowledging the acquired status to said debugger  
being a request source;

receiving all replies by means of said debugger being a  
request source; and

20 outputting contents of received replies in a batch mode  
to said user;

whereby said user acquires the status inside said  
distributed system to be debugged, without  
recognizing the existence place.

25 21 The debugging method defined in Claim 17, wherein each

of debuggers constructing said distributed debugger system includes the steps of:

receiving an instruction of a change in execution status;

5 deciding whether or not said instructed status corresponds to a change to the same status as a current status;

changing the status when the instructed status is not the same as the current status;

10 deciding whether or not said execution status change is instructed according to a change of the management status of a debug object program;

instructing said debugger on other computer to change the execution status via communications when the 15 status change is instructed due to a change of the management status of said debug object program;

deciding whether or not a debugger is said debugger which is managing said debug object program when the status change is not instructed due to a change of the management status of said debug object program;

20 and

25 changing the management status of said debug object program in accordance with the status changed when a debugger is said debugger which is managing said debug object program;

whereby the same execution status is maintained on all computers on which said distributed debugger system operates.

22 The debugging method defined in Claim 21, wherein each  
5 of said debuggers constructing said distributed debugger system implements the steps of:

receiving an instruction for displaying a status from a user;  
interpreting said instruction;  
10 specifying one or more specified status existence places;  
transmitting a status capture request to debuggers at all existence places;  
acquiring the status of a debug object program by means  
15 of said debugger which has received said status capture request;  
acknowledging the acquired status to said debugger being a request source;  
receiving all replies by means of said debugger being a  
20 request source; and  
outputting contents of received replies in a batch mode to said user;  
whereby said user acquires the status inside said distributed system to be debugged, without  
25 recognizing the existence place.

23 The debugging method defined in Claim 21, wherein each  
of debuggers constructing said distributed debugger system,  
comprises the steps of:

5 receiving an instruction of a status change from a  
user; and

interpreting said instruction and then changing the  
execution status.

24 The debugging method defined in Claim 21, wherein each  
of debuggers constructing said distributed debugger system,  
10 comprises the steps of:

monitoring an operation status of a debug object  
program; changing the management status of said debug  
object program when specific requirements are  
satisfied during monitoring; and

15 instructing an execution status change in accordance  
with a management status change.

25 The debugging method defined in Claims 17, wherein  
each of said debuggers constructing said distributed  
debugger system implements the steps of:

20 receiving an instruction for displaying a status from a  
user;

interpreting said instruction;  
specifying one or more specified status existence  
places;

25 transmitting a status capture request to debuggers at

all existence places;  
acquiring the status of a debug object program by means  
of said debugger which has received said status  
capture request;

5 acknowledging the acquired status to said debugger  
being a request source;  
receiving all replies by means of said debugger being a  
request source; and  
outputting contents of received replies in a batch mode  
10 to said user;  
whereby said user acquires the status inside said  
distributed system to be debugged, without  
recognizing the existence place.

26 A recording medium, on which a control program for a  
15 distributed debugger system for debugging a distributed  
system constructed by a program which runs on plural  
computers is recorded, said recording medium recording a  
program management step of executing a management from a  
specific computer to other computers via a network  
20 interconnecting plural computers, said management being  
related to the setting status and execution status of a  
debug object program executed on each of said computers.

27 The recording medium defined in Claim 26, wherein said  
program management step comprises the steps of:  
25 receiving an instruction of a change of setting from a

user or other computers by means of each of debugger  
constructing said distributed debugger system;

changing the setting in response to said instruction;  
deciding whether or not said instruction has come from  
other computers; and

notifying a debugger on other computers of the  
instruction via communications when said instruction  
is not received via communications;

whereby a distributed debugger to be debugged is

10 debugged using the same setting on all computers on  
which said distributed debugger system operates.

28 The recording medium defined in Claim 27, wherein each  
of said debuggers constructing said distributed debugger  
system implements the steps of:

15 receiving an instruction of an execution status change;  
deciding whether or not the instructed status is a  
change to the same status as a current status;  
changing the status when the instructed status is not  
the same as the current status;

20 instructing an execution status change to said debugger  
on other computers via communications when a status  
change is instructed in accordance with a change of  
the management status of the debug object program;

deciding whether or not said debugger managing the  
25 debug object program when a status change is not

instructed in accordance with a change of the  
management status of the debug object program; and  
changing the management status of a debug object  
program in accordance with the status changed when a  
5 debugger is said debugger managing the debug object  
program;

whereby the same execution status is maintained on all  
computers on which said distributed debugger system  
is operated.

10 29 The recording medium defined in Claim 27, wherein each  
of said debuggers constructing said distributed system,  
implements the steps of:

receiving an instruction for displaying the status from  
a user;

15 interpreting said instruction;  
specifying one or more existence places in the  
specified status;  
transmitting a status capture request to debuggers at  
all specified existence places;

20 acquiring the status of the debug object program by  
means of said debugger which has received the status  
capture request;

returning the acquired status to said debugger being a  
request source;

25 receiving all replies by means of said debugger being a

request source; and  
outputting contents of said received replies to said  
user in a batch mode;

whereby said user acquires the status inside a

5 distributed system to be debugged, without  
recognizing the existence place.

30 The recording medium defined in Claim 26, wherein each  
of said debuggers constructing said distributed debugger  
system implements the steps of:

10 receiving an instruction of an execution status change;  
deciding whether or not the instructed status is a  
change to the same status as a current status;  
changing the status when the instructed status is not  
the same as the current status;

15 instructing an execution status change to said debugger  
on other computers via communications when a status  
change is instructed in accordance with a change of  
the management status of the debug object program;

deciding whether or not said debugger managing the  
20 debug object program when a status change is not  
instructed in accordance with a change of the  
management status of the debug object program; and  
changing the management status of a debug object  
program in accordance with the status changed when a  
25 debugger is said debugger managing the debug object

program;

whereby the same execution status is maintained on all computers on which said distributed debugger system is operated.

5       31 The recording medium defined in any one of Claim 30, wherein each of said debuggers constructing said distributed system, implements the steps of:

receiving an instruction for displaying the status from a user;

10      interpreting said instruction;

specifying one or more existence places in the specified status;

transmitting a status capture request to debuggers at all specified existence places;

15      acquiring the status of the debug object program by means of said debugger which has received the status capture request;

returning the acquired status to said debugger being a request source;

20      receiving all replies by means of said debugger being a request source; and

outputting contents of said received replies to said user in a batch mode;

whereby said user acquires the status inside a distributed system to be debugged, without

25

recognizing the existence place.

32 The recording medium defined in Claim 30, wherein each  
of said debuggers constructing said distributed system,  
implements the steps of:

5 . receiving an instruction of a status change from a  
user; and  
interpreting the instruction and changing the execution  
status thereof.

10 33 The recording medium defined in Claim 30, wherein each  
of said debuggers constructing said distributed system,  
implements the steps of:

15 monitoring the operation status of a debug object  
program;  
changing the management status of the debug object  
program when specific requirements are satisfied  
during monitoring; and  
instructing a change in execution status in accordance  
with a change in management status.

20 34 The recording medium defined in Claim 26, wherein each  
of said debuggers constructing said distributed system,  
implements the steps of:

25 receiving an instruction for displaying the status from  
a user;  
interpreting said instruction;  
specifying one or more existence places in the

specified status;  
transmitting a status capture request to debuggers at  
all specified existence places;  
acquiring the status of the debug object program by  
5 means of said debugger which has received the status  
capture request;  
returning the acquired status to said debugger being a  
request source;  
receiving all replies by means of said debugger being a  
10 request source; and  
outputting contents of said received replies to said  
user in a batch mode;  
whereby said user acquires the status inside a  
distributed system to be debugged, without  
15 recognizing the existence place.